



PLACER COUNTY  
**SHERIFF**  
CORONER-MARSHAL



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**EDWARD N. BONNER**  
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

**STEPHEN L. D'ARCY**  
UNDERSHERIFF

## PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release:	JANUARY 11, 2001
Date/Time of Occurrence	NOVEMBER 13, 2000
Nature of Call	FALSE ROBBERY REPORT
Location of Call	THRIFTY GAS STATION, BOWMAN ROAD, AUBURN
Case Number	SO00-19011
Released by	LT. RICK ARMSTRONG

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### **SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:**

A female gas station employee and an acquaintance have been arrested and charged with setting up the November 13 robbery of the Thrifty Gas Station on Bowman Road.

Clerk Michelle Stephens, 33, of Newcastle, and John Scicluna, 25, of Auburn, face numerous counts after confessing to Placer County Sheriff's Detective Angela DeWolf that they set up the mid-afternoon heist and split the money. Stephens has been charged with grand theft, conspiracy, filing a false police report and embezzlement. Scicluna has been charged with burglary, conspiracy, grand theft and wearing a mask to conceal his face during the crime.

Stephens reported the robbery via a 911 call to the Sheriff's Department. During the initial investigation, she told deputies and detectives that she feared for her safety when an unidentified man entered the store and demanded money from the cash register. After interviewing more than a dozen people, investigators determined that the crime was not a robbery and that Stephens and Scicluna were involved.



In December, Scicluna, who was in custody at the Placer County Jail on unrelated charges, told DeWolf that he and Stephens had planned the entire incident. Stephens finally admitted her role after she was arrested.



Scicluna remains in custody at the Placer County Jail and Stephens was released on \$20,000 bail. Both are scheduled to return to court January 16.

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